October 2003



# Hopedale Hydrologic Restoration (PO-24)

## **Project Status**

**Approved Date:** 1999 **Cost:** \$2.4 million **Project Area:** 3,805 acres **Status:** Construction

Net Benefit After 20 Years: 134 acres Project Type: Hydrologic Restoration

#### Location

The project is located southeast of Yscloskey in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

#### **Problems**

In the 1950s, a water control structure was placed in a canal leading from the project area to Bayou la Loutre. This canal parallels the back Mississippi River Gulf Outlet (MRGO) spoil containment dike. When installed, this structure contained three galvanized iron culverts with flapgates. As time passed, the flapgates were removed and never replaced. During recent years, two of the three culverts have collapsed, adversely impacting wetlands in the project area through the loss of drainage capability. Increased water elevations from high tides and rainfall ponding on the marsh surface have reduced plant health and led to accelerated marsh loss.

## **Restoration Strategy**

This project will abate site-specific wetland loss by replacing collapsed culverts installed in the 1950s near Yscloskey. These degraded water control structures are currently preventing the drainage of high tides and stormwater runoff, resulting in impounded water on the marsh.

### **Progress to Date**

The cooperative agreement was awarded January 11, 2000. Engineering and design is nearing completion. The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved construction funding at their April 2003 meeting.

This project is listed on Priority Project List 8.



Lack of drainage capabilities in the area have led to ponding and reduced plant health

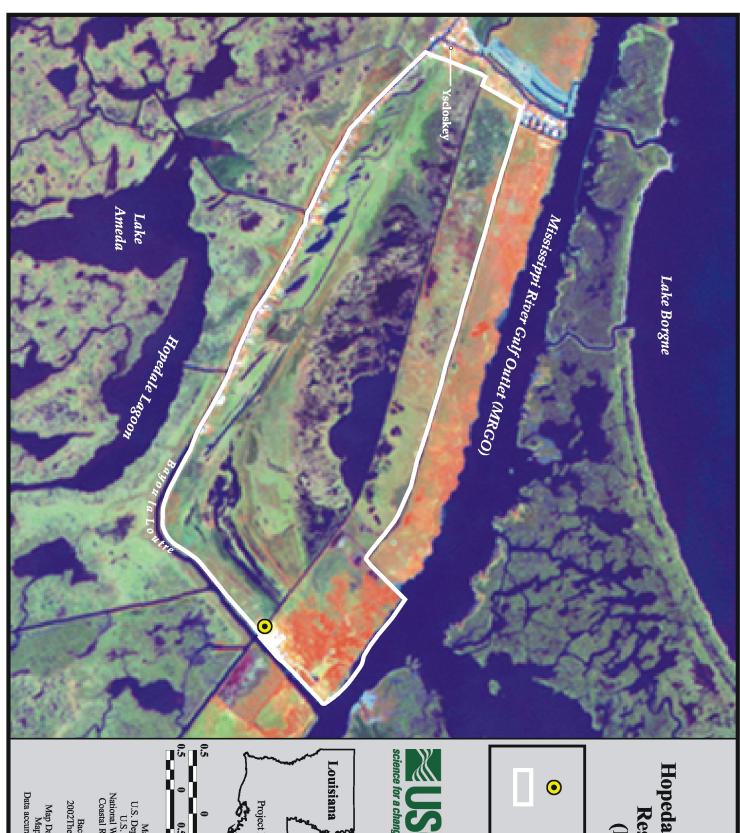
 $For \ more \ project \ information, \ please \ contact:$ 



Federal Sponsor: National Marine Fisheries Service Baton Rouge, LA (225) 389-0508



Local Sponsor: Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Baton Rouge, LA (225) 342-7308



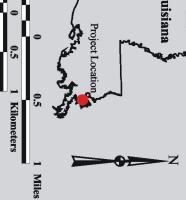
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**Proposed Culverts** 

**Project Boundary** 







Map Produced By:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station

Background Imagery: 2002Thematic Mapper Imagery

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